Attorney Docket No.: 4324,224-US

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Hansen et al.

Senal No.: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: to be assigned

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Examiner: To be assigned

For: Animal Feed Additives

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the specification by canceling 1-18 and adding the following new claims:

- 19. (New) An isolated xylanase exhibiting
  - (a) a pH-optimum in the range of 4.5-7.5; and
- (b) a residual xylanase activity after incubation for 60 minutes at pH 6.0 selected from one or more of

(i) more than 96% residual activity when measured at 60 °C.

- (ii) more than 83% residual activity when measured at 65°C,
- (iii) more than 20% residual activity when measured at 70°C,
- (iv) more than 9% activity when measured at 75°C